

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 11-0311R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Welch, Henry, Middleton, Curran, Stokes, D'Adamo, Conaway,  
Holton, Clarke, Branch, President Young

Introduced and read first time: August 15, 2011

Assigned to: Urban Affairs and Aging Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Mayor's Office of Employment Development,  
Baltimore City Public School System, Department of Finance

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Expanding YouthWorks into a Year-Round Program**

3 FOR the purpose of calling on the Mayor and the Director of the Mayor's Office of Employment  
4 Development to add a year-round component to YouthWorks in order to allow it to better  
5 meet the needs of Baltimore's young people.

6 **Recitals**

7 The 2011 YouthWorks program ended just over a week ago on Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. Through  
8 this program, as has been the case every summer for nearly three decades, thousands of  
9 Baltimore City youth received their first introduction to the working world, and thousands more  
10 added vital job skills and experience to their resumes.

11 As we reflect on the continued success of the YouthWorks program it is also appropriate to  
12 consider how the program could be expanded and improved to continue building on these  
13 successes. One question that springs to mind concerns the end date for the annual YouthWorks  
14 program; or, rather, why it should have a fixed end date at all.

15 YouthWorks offers jobs to youth ages 14 to 21, a demographic currently suffering with a  
16 staggering 30% unemployment rate. This intimidating job market does not magically improve  
17 on August 5<sup>th</sup>. Many students seeking after school work, or young people looking for their first  
18 positions as their school days draw to a close, could benefit from the entry and training level  
19 positions provided by YouthWorks just as much in September or January as in June and July.

20 The dangers inherent in jobless frustration and forced idleness - and the needs of local  
21 businesses for productive, motivated, and pre-screened part-time help - similarly do not  
22 disappear the moment the calendar rolls over into August. Extending YouthWorks in some form  
23 into a year-round program could continue to provide benefits to young job seekers, local  
24 employers, and the City as a whole throughout the year.

25 Broadening the program's focus to encompass the entire year would help to ensure that  
26 YouthWorks becomes even more effective at helping Baltimore's youth become productive and  
27 successful members of the workforce for years to come.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

**Council Bill 11-0311R**

1       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
2 Council calls on the Mayor and the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development  
3 to add a year-round component to YouthWorks in order to allow it to better meet the needs of  
4 Baltimore’s young people.

5       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
6 Director of the Mayor’s Office of Employment Development, and the Mayor’s Legislative  
7 Liaison to the City Council.